## Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of	)
MOBILEMEDIA CORPORATION, et al.	) WT Docket No. 97-115
Applicant for Authorizations and Licensee of Certain Stations in Various Services	RECEIVED
)	NOV 1 6 1998
To: The Commission	)  FEDERAL CONSUMERATIONS CONCAISSION  OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

## COMMENTS OF SECURED LENDERS IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATIONS FOR TRANSFER OF CONTROL AND PETITION TO TERMINATE AND FOR SPECIAL RELIEF

The Chase Manhattan Bank, as agent for the secured lenders to MobileMedia Communications, Inc., a subsidiary of MobileMedia Corporation ("Secured Lenders"), respectfully files these comments in support of the Applications for Transfer of Control and Petition to Terminate and for Special Relief (collectively, the "Application") filed by MobileMedia Corporation ("MobileMedia") and Arch Communications Group, Inc. ("Arch") on September 2, 1998, and supplemented by those parties pursuant to Section 1.65 of the Commission's rules on October 5, 1998.

The Secured Lenders consist of 33 financial institutions that made \$649 million in prepetition secured loans to MobileMedia. A subgroup of those institutions has also committed to furnishing up to \$75 million in postpetition secured financing. The prepetition claims of

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The Secured Lenders provided prepetition loans under the Credit Agreement, dated as of December 4, 1995, and postpetition financing under the Revolving Credit and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of January 30, 1997, each as amended.

Secured Lenders constitute the largest creditor claims against MobileMedia in the bankruptcy proceedings. Based on the Secured Lenders' demonstration of a significant financial stake in this proceeding, the Commission has granted them intervenor status in this case.<sup>2</sup>

Secured Lenders strongly support a grant of the Application. In this proceeding, the Commission has indicated that the test for *Second Thursday* relief will be met where MobileMedia has made a showing that "individuals charged with misconduct will have no part in proposed operations and will either derive no benefit from . . . the [assignment or transfer] application or will receive only a minor benefit which is outweighed by equitable considerations in favor of innocent creditors." That test is clearly met here.

As detailed in the Application, the four alleged wrongdoers in this proceeding "will have no part in the . . . operations [of the future licensee]." MobileMedia and Arch have demonstrated that none of the suspected wrongdoers is employed by either company, and that none will play any role in a combined entity. See Joint Petition to Terminate and for Special Relief at 28. Likewise, since all equity interests in MobileMedia will be canceled under the Amended Plan, no distribution will be made to any wrongdoer as a result of this transaction. See id. at 29.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> MobileMedia Corp., et al., 12 FCC Rcd 11861 (1997).

MobileMedia Corp., et al., 12 FCC Rcd 7927, 7928 (1997) ("Stay Order") (citing Second Thursday Corp., 22 FCC 2d 515, 516, recon. granted in part, 25 FCC 2d 112 (1970)); see also MobileMedia Corp., et al., 13 FCC Rcd 14770 (1998); MobileMedia Corp., et al., 13 FCC Rcd 10634 (1998); MobileMedia Corp., et al., 12 FCC Rcd 11861 (1997).

Second Thursday, 22 FCC 2d at 516.

Earlier in this proceeding, the Commission emphasized "[the] danger of severe harm to a multitude of innocent creditors here."51 At the same time, the Commission specifically recognized the protection of innocent creditors as a core public interest consideration underlying Second Thursday. Here, it is clear that approval of the proposed transaction will advance the interests of innocent creditors, including the substantial financial stake held by these Secured Lenders. As detailed in the Application, the proposed transaction will preserve the economic value of more than \$1.1 billion currently owed by MobileMedia to innocent parties. See Joint Petition at 2. It will enable the Secured Lenders to receive 100% of the principal amount of the secured bank debt (\$649 million) in cash, comprising a \$479 million payment by Arch and \$170 million in proceeds already distributed by MobileMedia from the sale of its tower site assets on September 3, 1998. See Attachment A to Supplement to Petition to Terminate and for Special Relief at 1. Unsecured creditors of MobileMedia, whose claims aggregate approximately \$480 million, will collectively receive rights entitling them (or their assignees) to acquire a majority equity position in the post-merger entity. Id. Accordingly, the proposed transaction will safeguard the interests of innocent creditors in accordance with the principles of Second Thursday.

Stay Order, 12 FCC Rcd at 7931.

Id. In applying the Second Thursday doctrine, the Commission is obliged to give substantial deference to the objectives of the bankruptcy code and in particular to the protection of innocent creditors such as the Secured Lenders. See LaRose v. FCC, 494 F.2d at 1145, 1147-48 (D.C. Cir. 1974). In LaRose, the D.C. Circuit required the Commission to "accommodate the policies of federal bankruptcy law with those of the Communications Act." Id. at 1146, n.2.

For the foregoing reasons, the Secured Lenders urge the Commission promptly to terminate the MobileMedia hearing and grant the Application in order to expedite MobileMedia's emergence from bankruptcy and prevent any further deterioration of MobileMedia's business to the detriment of innocent creditors.

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian E. Kraemer

Brian Trust Kerry Mithalal

SIMPSON THACHER & BARTLETT

425 Lexington Avenue

New York, New York 10017

(212) 455-2000

John H. Harwood II

William R. Richardson, Jr.

Michael A. McKenzie

WILMER, CUTLER & PICKERING

2445 M Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20037-1420

(202) 663-6000

Counsel for The Chase Manhattan Bank, Agent for Secured Prepetition and Postpetition Lenders

November 16, 1998

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Michael A. McKenzie, hereby certify that on this 16th day of November 1998, I caused copies of the foregoing "Comments Of Secured Lenders In Support Of Applications For Transfer Of Control And Petition To Terminate And For Special Relief" to be served by hand delivery, unless otherwise indicated, on the following:

The Honorable William H. Kennard Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814 Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Susan Ness Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W., Room 832 Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Michael K. Powell Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W., Room 844 Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Harold W. Furchtgott-Roth Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W., Room 802 Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Gloria Tristani Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W., Room 826 Washington, D.C. 20554

Christopher Wright General Counsel Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W., Room 614 Washington, D.C. 20554 David Solomon
Deputy General Counsel
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 614
Washington, D.C. 20554

John I. Riffer Office of the General Counsel Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W., Room 610 Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Joseph Chachkin Office of Administrative Law Judges Federal Communications Commission 2000 L Street, N.W., Room 226 Washington, D.C. 20554

Daniel B. Phythyon Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Federal Communications Commission 2025 M Street, N.W., Room 5002 Washington, D.C. 20554

Kathleen O'Brien Ham Deputy Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Federal Communications Commission 2025 M Street, N.W., Room 5002 Washington, D.C. 20554 Catherine W. Seidel Chief, Enforcement Division Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Federal Communications Commission 2025 M Street, N.W., Room 8303 Washington, D.C. 20554

Myron Peck
Deputy Chief, Enforcement Division
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
2025 M Street, N.W., Room 8308

Washington, D.C. 20554

Gary P. Schonman Enforcement Division Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Federal Communications Commission 2025 M Street, N.W., Room 8308 Washington, D.C. 20554

John Schauble
Enforcement Division
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
2025 M Street, N.W., Room 8308
Washington, D.C. 20554

Steve E. Weingarten Chief, Commercial Wireless Division Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Federal Communications Commission 2100 M Street, N.W., Suite 700 Washington, D.C. 20554

Stephen Markendorff
Deputy Chief, Commercial Wireless Bureau
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
2100 M Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20554

Paul D'Ari Commercial Wireless Division Wireless Telecommunications Bureau 2100 M Street, N.W., Suite 700 Washington, D.C. 20554

Elizabeth Williams Commercial Wireless Division Wireless Telecommunications Bureau 2100 M Street, N.W., Suite 700 Washington, D.C. 20554

D'wana R. Terry Chief, Public Safety and Private Wireless Division Wireless Telecommunications Bureau 2025 M Street, N.W. Room 8002 Washington, D.C. 20554

Karen Wrege Co-Chair ULS Task Force Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Federal Communications Commission 2025 M Street, N.W., Room 5002 Washington, D.C. 20554

Stephen C. Buenzow
Licensing and Technical Analysis Branch
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
1270 Fairfield Road
Gettysburg, PA 17325
By first-class mail

David Steimling
Licensing and Technical Analysis Branch
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
1270 Fairfield Road
Gettysburg, PA 17325
By first-class mail

Kathryn A. Zachem
Kenneth D. Patrich
Carolyn W. Groves
John B. Branscome
Wilkinson Barker Knauer & Quinn, L.L.P.
2300 N Street, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20037-1128
For Arch Communications Group, Inc.

By first-class mail

Richard E. Wiley
Robert L. Pettit
Peter D. Shields
Nancy J. Victory
Wiley, Rein & Fielding
1776 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
For MobilMedia Corporation,
Debtor-In-Possession
By first-class mail

Phillip L. Spector
Patrick S. Campbell
Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison
1615 L Street, N.W., Suite 1300
Washington, D.C. 20036
For the Unsecured Creditors
By first-class mail

Dennis P. Corbett
Leventhal, Senter & Lerman
2000 K Street, N.W., Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20006-1809
For Hellman & Friedman Capital Partners,
II, L.P.
By first-class mail

Michael D. Hayes
Dow, Lohnes & Albertson
1200 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-6802
For David A. Bayer
By first-class mail

Louis Gurman
Kimberly D. Wheeler
Gurman, Blask & Freedman, Chartered
1400 16th Street, N.W., Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20036
For Western Wireless Corporation
By first-class mail

Lillian Kraemer
Brian Trust
Kerry Mithalal
Simpson, Thacher & Bartlett
425 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10017
For the Chase Manhattan Bank, as agent for secured lenders of MobileMedia Corporation
By first-class mail

David S. Kurtz
Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue
77 West Wacker
Chicago, IL 60601-1692
For the Unsecured Creditors
By first-class mail

Ky E. Kirby
Swidler & Berlin Chtd.
3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20007-5116
For John M. Kealey
By first-class mail

David Spears
James M. Aquilina
Richard Spears Kibbe & Orbe
One Chase Manhattan Plaza, 57th Floor
New York, NY 10005-1413
For John M. Kealey
By first-class mail

W. Neil Eggleston
Evan J. Werbel
Howrey & Simon
1299 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
For Debra P. Hilson and Mark L.
Witsaman
By first-class mail

James C. Mingee
Mingee & Associates
4084 Coker Road
Jackson, MS 39213
For Glynn Ingram
By first-class mail

Michael A. McKenziel